

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 676)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 6x + 36 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(6) \pm \sqrt{(6)^2 - 4(1)(36)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(6) \pm \sqrt{36 - 144}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-108}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 3}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm 6\sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

$$x = -3 \pm 3\sqrt{3}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-7 + 9i$ and $5 + 4i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (-7 + 9i) \cdot (5 + 4i) \\ & -35 - 28i + 45i + 36i^2 \\ & -35 - 28i + 45i - 36 \\ & -35 - 36 - 28i + 45i \\ & -71 + 17i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - 11x^2 + 38x - 40$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 5)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} & 1 & -11 & 38 & -40 \\ 5 & & 5 & -30 & 40 \\ \hline & 1 & -6 & 8 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 5)(x^2 - 6x + 8)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 5)(x - 2)(x - 4)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 7)^2 \cdot (x + 4)^2 \cdot (x + 1) \cdot (x - 3)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

